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UM reinstates general education requirements

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UM news

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IMMEDIATELY

UM REINSTATES GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

hensel/jg
2/27/79
dailies

MISSOULA--

Following a national trend in which college students are required to obtain well-rounded educations, the University of Montana has tentatively approved a general education program.

The plan, which was approved by the University's Faculty Senate Feb. 22, will require students to complete 12 credits in each of three categories: sciences, humanities and social and behavioral sciences.

The University dropped a similar program in 1971 after students demanded more freedom to choose their academic curriculum. However, many universities are reexamining whether or not students are getting educations that include a variety of courses.

At UM, 192 transcripts of the class of 1976 were studied. Less than 25 per cent of the students had taken courses that would have fulfilled the previous education requirements.

A Faculty Senate committee had recommended originally that students be required to take 48 credits specified by a Committee of General Education. However, many groups opposed the original draft, and the approved plan allows more choice in what courses can be taken in each category.

The plan is expected to be approved by the University administration and the Board of Regents of Higher Education and will apply only to students who enroll at the University for the first time Fall Quarter.

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